



COTTONWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

199 S. 6TH STREET - COTTONWOOD, AZ 86326 – 928.634.4246

[HTTP://COTTONWOODAZ.GOV/PD/INDEX2.PHP](http://cottonwoodaz.gov/PD/INDEX2.PHP)

Shots Fired

On 06/13/2016 at approximately 07:49 hours Jesse Joe Sanchez III of Cottonwood was waiting at a residence in the 1200 Block of E. Graham St. for his girlfriend, Meissa Lomeli, to return home. Jesse Joe Sanchez III had in his possession a defaced, "Sawed off", shotgun in his possession. When Lomeli arrived she was accompanied by another male subject. Upon Lomeli's arrival an argument started between Jesse Sanchez and male. During this argument Sanchez pointed the shotgun at Lomeli. A struggle ensued between male subject and Sanchez for the shotgun. The weapon discharged during the scuffle.

On 06/13/2016 Officers responded to the 1200 Block E. Graham St. in Cottonwood, Yavapai County, AZ for a report of shots fired. Cottonwood Dispatch had received a report of one gunshot which was related to an altercation. The reporting party stated the suspect left the scene in a black Chevy SUV with a "doughnut" tire on the right front of the vehicle. Moments later dispatched relayed to Officers the SUV was parked in a business parking lot across from where the incident occurred.

As Officers were approaching the area a male subject, later identified as Jesse Joe Sanchez III, was seen running through the business parking lot where the vehicle was last seen. This subject was stopped and detained by Officers where a pair of brass knuckles were discovered in his pants pocket.

Additional Officers responded to the Graham Street address where they contacted Meissa Lynn Lomeli who was reportedly involved in the incident. Lomeli failed to respond to Officer's commands and was being disorderly. During the investigation Lomeli provided the identity of another and stated the weapon involved in the incident was an airsoft gun. Lomeli was unable to provide the location of the "air soft" gun.

Officers interviewed the home owner who of the residence who stated she observed Jesse Sanchez outside her residence with what she believed to be a "sawed off shotgun".

Officers located the vehicle, which was registered to Meissa Lynn Lomeli, parked in the parking lot where Jesse Sanchez had been located and was detained. Officers

observed, in plain view, what appeared to be a shotgun in the back seat of the vehicle. The shot gun appeared to be altered in a manner where the stock and barrel have been shortened. While Officers were investigating the exterior of the vehicle they located what appeared to be fresh damage to the vehicle possibly made by being struck with a shotgun pellet.

While searching the vehicle pursuant to a search warrant, the sawed-off shotgun was recovered as well as a purse belonging to Lomeli. Inside the purse Officers located several items of drug paraphernalia and some shotgun shells.



Jesse Sanchez III, a 31 year old Cottonwood Resident, was arrested for Disorderly Conduct per DV, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Prohibited Possessor, Aggravated Assault per DV, and Criminal Damage.

Meissa Lomeli, a 26 year old Cottonwood Resident, was arrested for Disorderly Conduct, Taking Identity of Another, 3 counts of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

